

Message Text

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63

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 ACDA-07 PRS-01 SAJ-01 OMB-01

SAM-01 DHA-02 /075 W

----- 037344

R 181335Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4161

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

DIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT

USMISSION USNATO

USMISSION USUN

USNMR SHAPE BEL

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 2388

USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD

USCINCEUR FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UN CY

SUBJECT: GOC VIEWS ON HUMANITARIAN TALKS

REF: (A) NICOSIA 2364 (DTG 170936Z AUG 76), (B) STATE 203771
(DTG 162317Z AUG 76) (NOTAL)

1. FONMIN DIRGEN PELAGHIAS CALLED CHARGE IN AUGUST 18 TO INFORM
EMBASSY ABOUT COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN UNDER SECRETARY HABIB AND
GOC AMBASSADOR DIMITRIOU ON POSSIBLE HUMANITARIAN TALKS IN
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NICOSIA. PELAGHIAS SAID DIMITRIOU HAD INFORMED HABIB THAT

(A) GOC IS READY TO CONTINUE DIALGUE WITH TURKISH CYPRIOTS,
(B) HUMANITARIAN TALKS WOULD BE APPROPRIATE VENUE FOR
CONTINUED DIALOGUE, (C) GOC WOULD NOT OBJECT IF DE CUELLAR
SUGGESTS THAT INTERLOCUTORS DISCUSS PROCEDURAL--NOT
SUBSTANTIVE--ASPECTS OF RENEWAL OF INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS.
DIMITRIOU REPORTED UNDER SECRETARY HABIB HAD CONCURRED THAT
THIS WAS USG UNDERSTANDING OF GOC POSITION.

2. GOC IS CONCERNED, PELAGHIAS SAID, THAT INCORRECT TERMIN-
OLOGY IS BEING USED TO DESCRIBE POSSIBLE REOPENING OF
DIALOGUE. US SPOKESMEN HAVE CHARACTERIZED TALKS AS WHAT
IS TRANSLATED AS "LOWER ECHELON" (WE TAKE THIS TO MEAN
"WORKING LEVEL") TALKS IN NICOSIA. THIS CARRIES THE
IMPLICATION THAT THE US THINKS THAT THE RESUMED TALKS WOULD
BE SOMETHING DIFFERENT THAN HUMANITARIAN TALKS. PELAGHIAS
SAID THAT EVEN AMBASSADOR DIMITRIOU HAS FALLEN INTO THE UN-
FORTUNATE OF REFERRING TO TALKS AS "LOWER ECHELON." THIS IS
NOT CORRECT. GOC HAS ONLY AGREED TO RESUMPTION OF HUMANITARIAN
TALKS. THE ELVEL WILL NOT BE REDUCED IN THAT PARTICIPANTS WILL
BE NEGOTIATORS FROM BOTH SIDES. GOC WANTS TO AVOID ANY SUGGESTION
THAT TALKS ARE SUBCOMMITTEES IN DISGUISE OR THAT POLITICAL
SUBSTANCE WILL BE DISCUSSED.

3. CHARGE NOTED THAT "WORKING LEVEL" TERM HAS BEEN USED IN
COMMUNICATIONS ON POSSIBLE NICOSIA TALKS AND PROMISED TO PASS
PELAGHIAS' CONCERNS ON TO DEPT. CHARGE STRESSED PER REF B THAT
IMPORTANT THING IS TO GET THE DIALOGUE GOING AGAIN. USG HOPES
THAT GOC IS WILLING TO MEET WITH TURKISH CYPRIOTS TO DISCUSS
DAY-TO-DAY PROBLEMS WITH A MINIMUM OF CONTROVERSY OVER
TITLE OF TALKS OR OTHER PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS. PELAGHIAS
SAID THAT GOC NEGOTIATOR PAPADOPOULOS IS READY TO MEET
WITH TURKISH CYPRIOT NEGOTIATOR ONAN AT ANY TIME AND,
IN FACT, HAS SEVERAL HUMANITARIAN PROBLEMS TO DISCUSS.
TURKISH CYPRIOTS, ON THE OTHER HAND, HAVE AVOIDED
APPROACHES BY LOCAL UN OFFICIALS TRYING TO SET UP TALKS.
ONAN IS IN LONDON ON QUESTIONABLE GROUNDS; CELIK HAS BEEN
ABSENT FROM CYPRUS FOR UNDERSTANDABLE REASONS; BUT NET
RESULT HAS BEEN THAT TURK CYPRIOT SIDE HAS NOT MADE IT
EASY TO GET HUMANITARIAN TALKS GOING.

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4. WITH ONAN AND CELIK AWAY FROM CYPRUS, EMBASSY HAS FOUND
IT DIFFICULT TO FIND HIGH-LEVEL TURK CYPRIOTS WITH WHOM TO
DISCUSS TALKS. CELIK IS RETURNING TO CYPRUS IN NEXT DAY OR SO.
WE WILL SEEK AN APPOINTMENT WITH HIM SOONEST TO DISCUSS
REOPENING OF HUMANITARIAN TALKS AND TO EMPHASIZE POSITION REF
B THAT THERE IS A NEED TO KEEP DISCUSSION GOING AND FOR FORMAL
INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS TO RESUME.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, NEGOTIATIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976NICOSI02388
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760317-0675
From: NICOSIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760843/aaaabkov.tel
Line Count: 115
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 NICOSIA 2364, 76 STATE 203771
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 MAR 2004 by morefirh>; APPROVED <04 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOC VIEWS ON HUMANITARIAN TALKS
TAGS: PFOR, CY, TU, GR, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006